Serial No.: 10/709,385 Confirmation No.: 1682

Attorney Docket No.: 0173.0054.PCUS00

CLAIMS LISTING:

Please cancel claims 1 and 6 and amend claims 2 - 5, 7, 9, and 19 and as follows:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) The-vehicle-as-recited-in-claim-1, A vehicle comprising a drivetrain, having an internal combustion engine (1) and a gearbox (9) coupled to the internal combustion engine, and a control unit (45) for automatic gear selection as a function of the current rotational speed of an input shaft to the gearbox (9), in which the control unit (45) has a first operating mode (56) with a first working speed range (81) defined by a first lower limit (68) for downshifting to a gear with a higher transmission ratio, wherein the control unit (45) has a second operating mode (57) with a second working speed range (70) defined by a second lower limit (69) for downshifting to a gear with a higher transmission ratio, in which the second limit (69) is lower than the idling speed (80) of the internal combustion engine and is equal to a lower rotational speed than the first lower limit (68), wherein the control unit (45) comprises a memory unit (72) in which a representation (74) of [[the]] a highest permitted gear in the second working speed range (70) is stored, wherein the representation (74) of the highest permitted gear comprises a representation (74) defining the highest permitted gear when driving at idling speed as a function of the current weight of the vehicle and the current gradient of the road on which the vehicle is being driven.

- 3. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as recited in claim [[1]] 2, wherein the control unit (45) is configured to select the highest permitted gear or a gear lower than the highest permitted gear when the control unit has assumed the second operating mode (57).
- 4. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as recited in any one of claim 1-3 claim 2, wherein the control unit is coupled to elements (54) for indicating the selection of first or second operating mode.

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5. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as recited in any one of claims 1-3 claim 2, wherein

the vehicle contains an engine management unit (53), which comprises an idling speed regulator

(75), the idling speed regulator (75) being designed to control the torque delivered from the

internal combustion engine (1) when the vehicle is operated at idling speed in the second

operating mode (57).

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as recited in claim 2 [[6]], wherein the control unit

(45) contains a representation (73) defining the highest permitted starting gear as a function of

the current weight of the vehicle and the current gradient of the road on which the vehicle is being driven, and that the representation (74) defining the highest permitted gear when driving at

idling speed is based on the representation defining the highest permitted starting gear.

8. (Original) The vehicle as recited in claim 7, wherein the representation (74) defining the

highest permitted gear at idling speed consists of the representation defining the highest

permitted starting gear (73) plus a predetermined number of gear shift stages.

9. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as recited in any one of claims 1-3 claim 2, wherein

the vehicle contains elements (45, 3) for establishing that the internal combustion engine is

delivering sufficient torque for operation of the vehicle at an operating speed equal to a rotational

speed of a gearbox input shaft below the first limit (68).

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10. (Original) The vehicle as recited in claim 9, wherein the drivetrain contains a clutch unit (3) arranged between the internal combustion engine and the gearbox, the drivetrain being divided

into a first part (51) up to the clutch unit and comprising the internal combustion engine (1) and a

into a first part (51) up to the clutch unit and comprising the internal combustion engine (1) and a second part from the clutch unit (3) onwards and comprising the gearbox (9), characterized in

that the second limit (69) for downshifting is equal to a speed lower than the idling speed (80) of

the internal combustion engine, that the vehicle contains a sensor for measuring the current

rotational speed (60), and that the sensor (60) is designed to measure the rotational speed in the

second part (52) of the drivetrain, the clutch unit (3) being designed to absorb a speed differential

between the rotational speed of the first and second parts (51, 52) of the drivetrain where

insufficient torque has been delivered by the internal combustion engine (1), following which a

rotational speed equal to the second downshifting limit is reached and downshifting is permitted.

11. (Original) The vehicle as recited in claim 9, wherein the control unit (45) is designed to

establish that the internal combustion engine (1) is delivering sufficient torque by performing a

comparison between an estimate of the torque delivered by the internal combustion engine (1) in

the current operating state and the torque demanded from the internal combustion engine (1) for

operation of the vehicle in the current operating state.

12. (Previously Presented) The vehicle as recited in claim 4, wherein the elements (54) for

indicating selection of the first or second operating mode comprise a throttle lever (54) forming part of the vehicle, the control unit being designed to assume its second operating mode (57)

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should the throttle lever (54) be released into an idling position whilst in motion.

13. - 18 (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The vehicle as recited in claim [[1]] 2, in which the second

working speed range is larger than the first working speed range.

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